

<b>Notice of Allowability</b>	<b>Application No.</b>	<b>Applicant(s)</b>	
	10/048,170	KUNO ET AL.	
	<b>Examiner</b>	<b>Art Unit</b>	
	Katherine A. Bareford	1762	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the amendment of 9/30/03.
  2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 2.
  3. ☒ The drawings filed on 26 April 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
  4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
    - a) ☒ All    b) ☐ Some\*    c) ☐ None    of the:
      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
      3. ☒ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.
5. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).
    - (a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
  6. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application. **THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

7. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
8. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS must be submitted.
  - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
    - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (b) ☐ including changes required by the proposed drawing correction filed \_\_\_\_\_, which has been approved by the Examiner.
  - (c) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No. \_\_\_\_\_.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet.

9. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**


- |   |   |
|---|---|
| 1 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 2 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)          |
| 3 <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                         | 4 <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No. _____.            |
| 5 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449), Paper No. <u>7/03</u> . | 6 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment                             |
| 7 <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material      | 8 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance |
|   | 9 <input type="checkbox"/> Other  |

### REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

1. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the closest prior art is to EP 377 980, which teaches the making of a musical instrument body by impregnating a ceramic with a liquid resin. However, this reference does not teach or suggest the claimed modulus of elasticity between 10 and 100 GPa and the maximum internal friction, represented by the natural logarithm of the inverse of said internal friction, equal to  $1 \times 10^{-3}$  as required by independent claim 1.

The Examiner notes, that after review of applicant's amendment of Sept. 30, 2003, at pages 6-7, it is understood that as the phrase "maximum internal friction, represented by the natural logarithm of the inverse of said internal friction, equals to  $1 \times 10^{-3}$ " is understood, " $1 \times 10^{-3}$ " represents the highest acceptable internal friction, even though the magnitude of  $\log Q^{-1}$  is the lowest acceptable number (i.e., acceptable  $\log Q^{-1}$  numbers would be  $2 \times 10^{-3}$  or  $1 \times 10^{-2}$ ). The Examiner also understands, after a review of page 11 of the specification, that the discussion of the internal friction at lines 2-5 refers to the final product after the infiltration of resin, and the discussion of the internal friction at the second paragraph of page 11 refers to the body before the infiltration of resin.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

  
KATHERINE A. BAREFORD  
PRIMARY EXAMINER  
GROUP 1100-1702